

**Brookwood Military Cemetery,
Brookwood, Surrey
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



5124 PRIVATE

E. J. HARVEY

56TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

17TH OCTOBER, 1917 Age 22

He Died For His Country

Edward James (Ted) HARVEY

Edward James Harvey was born at Parramatta, Sydney, New South Wales at end of 1895 to parents George & Margaret Annie Harvey. His birth was registered in 1896 in the district of Parramatta, NSW.

Edward James Harvey was a 20 year old, single, Wood Machinist from Macquarie Street, Parramatta, NSW when he enlisted on 4th January, 1916 at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 5124 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr G. Harvey, Macquarie Street, Parramatta, NSW.

Private Edward James Harvey was posted to "B" Company, 4th Battalion on 4th January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 16th Reinforcements of 4th Battalion on 15th March, 1916.

Private Edward James Harvey embarked from Sydney, NSW on SS *Makarini* on 1st April, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Battalion, 16th Reinforcements & disembarked at Suez on 1st May, 1916.

Private Edward James Harvey was reallocated from 1st Training Battalion to 14th Training Battalion as reinforcements for 56th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 24th May, 1916.

Private Edward James Harvey embarked on H. T. *Ivernia* from Alexandria on 21st June, 1916 to join B. E. F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Private Edward James Harvey joined 56th Battalion in France from Reinforcements on 26th July, 1916.

56th Battalion

The 56th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 14 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 4th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 4th, the 56th was predominantly composed of men from New South Wales. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

Arriving in France on 30 June 1916, the battalion entered the frontline trenches for the first time on 12 July and fought its first major battle at Fromelles a week later. The battle was a disaster, resulting in heavy casualties across the division. Despite these losses the 5th Division continued to man the front in the Fromelles sector for a further two months.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Edward James Harvey was admitted to Field Ambulance on 18th October, 1916 with Influenza. He was admitted to 32nd Stationary Hospital at Wimereux on 20th October, 1916 with Influenza then transferred to Convalescent Camp on 6th November, 1916. Private Harvey was admitted to 1st Convalescent Depot at Boulogne, France on 6th November, 1916. He was discharged to Base Details on 12th November, 1916.

Private Edward James Harvey was marched in to 5th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 15th November, 1916. He was marched out to Active Service on 28th November, 1916 & rejoined 56th Battalion in France from Hospital on 30th November, 1916.

The address of Mr George Harvey, the next of kin of Private Edward James Harvey, was changed on the Records on 30th November, 1916 to "Deloraine", Arthur Street, off Jacques Street, Balmain, NSW (previous address was listed as Macquarie Street, Parramatta, NSW).

Private Edward James Harvey was sent sick to 1st ANZAC M D Station on 15th December, 1916 with Diarrhoea then transferred & admitted to 15th Field Ambulance on 16th December, 1916. He was transferred & admitted to 38th Casualty Clearing Station on 3rd January, 1917 with Debility. Private Harvey was transferred to Ambulance Train on 23rd January, 1917 & admitted to 6th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 26th January, 1917. He was transferred to 2nd Convalescent Depot at Rouen on 30th January, 1917 & discharged to Base Depot on 3rd February, 1917.

Private Edward James Harvey was marched in to 5th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 8th February, 1917. He was marched out to his Unit on 12th March, 1917 & rejoined 56th Battalion in France on 13th March, 1917.

Private Edward James Harvey was sent sick to Hospital on 19th March, 1917. He was admitted to 1/1 S.M. (?) Casualty Clearing Station on 22nd March, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train on 23rd March, 1917. Private Harvey was admitted to 5th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 23rd March, 1917 with I.C.T. (Inflammation Connective Tissue) Heel. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *West Australia* on 29th March, 1917.

Private Edward James Harvey was admitted to Southwark Military Hospital, East Dulwich, England on 30th March, 1917 with I.C.T. Left Foot (severe). He was discharged to furlo from 18th May, 1917 until 2nd June, 1917 & was then to report to Training Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire.

Mr G. Harvey, "Deloraine", Arthur Street, off Jacques Street, Balmain, NSW, father of Private Edward James Harvey, was advised on 18th April, 1917 that Private E. J. Harvey had been admitted to Southwark Military Hospital, London on 30th March, 1917, suffering from inflammation connective tissues of left foot (severe). Mr Harvey was advised by Base Records on 2nd May that Private E. J. Harvey was progressing favourably. Mr Harvey was advised again by Base Records in 31st May, 1917 that Private E. J. Harvey was convalescent and had been discharged from Hospital.

Private Edward James Harvey was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs from furlo on 3rd June, 1917 with Septic Feet. He was medically classified as A3 (medically & dentally fit) on 20th March, 1917

Private Edward James Harvey proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 15th June, 1917 from Hardening & Draft Depot at Perham Downs.

Private Edward James Harvey was marched in to 5th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Harve, France on 16th June, 1917. He was marched out to his Unit on 3rd July, 1917 & rejoined 56th Battalion in France from Hospital on 9th July, 1917.

Private Edward James Harvey was wounded in action in France on 26th September, 1917. He was admitted to 6th Field Ambulance on 27th September, 1917 with Shrapnel wounds to neck then transferred & admitted to 3rd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station the same day. Private Harvey was transferred to Ambulance Train on 27th September, 1917 & admitted to 2nd Australian General Hospital at Wimereux, France on 28th September, 1917 with shrapnel wounds to back of neck. He was invalided to England on 16th October, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Princess Elizabeth*.

56th Battalion

After a freezing winter manning trenches in the Somme Valley, in early 1917 the 56th Battalion participated in the advance that followed the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line. It was spared the assault but did, however, defend gains made during the second battle of Bullecourt. Later in the year, the AIF's focus of operations switched to the Ypres sector in Belgium. The 56th's major battle here was at Polygon Wood on 26 September.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Battle of Polygon Wood

The battle of Polygon Wood was the I ANZAC component of a larger British and dominion operation staged as part of the third battle of Ypres. This operation was the second of the "Plumer battles", a series of well-planned, limited advances supported by large volumes of artillery, masterminded by the British general Herbert Plumer. The name "Polygon Wood" derived from a young plantation forest that lay along I ANZAC's axis of advance.

Scheduled to begin on 26 September 1917, the attack was almost derailed by a German attack on the British X Corps to the south of I ANZAC. A day earlier, Australian troops of the 15th Brigade, preparing for their attack, took part in fending off the Germans; however, their advance the next day began with continuing uncertainty as to the security of their flank.

The British and dominion advance began on schedule at 5.50 am on the 26th, with the 4th and 5th Divisions, on the

left and right respectively, taking the lead in the I ANZAC sector. The infantry advanced behind a heavy artillery barrage - the noise of this was compared to a roaring bushfire - and they secured most of their objectives without difficulty. To the south, the 15th Brigade, which after its efforts the previous day had been reinforced by two battalions from the 8th, secured not only its own objectives but those allocated to the neighbouring 98th British Brigade. The Germans launched several counter-attacks but these were thwarted by the heavy defensive artillery barrages used to protect the infantry consolidating on their objectives; this was a feature of the Plumer battles. The battle cost 5,770 Australian casualties.

(Battle of Polygon Wood information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Edward James Harvey was admitted to King George Hospital, Stanford, England on 16th October, 1917 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Spine – dangerous. The Hospital Admissions form recorded: *“Wounded Sept 28, 1917 France. Attached Notes from No. 2 Aus Gen Hosp stats. Wound back of Neck, cannot move arms or legs. Sensation gone in hands & forearm, left side of chest & abdomen ___ but on R Side. Gone in feet, legs & thighs. Reflexes all absent, urine retention. X Ray shows no frac or T.B. On admission was in a collapsed condition with failing pulse which did not rally with stimulants. Had a large lacerated & septic wound to the left & posterior aspect of neck & made no attempt to move any of his limbs...”*

Mr G. Harvey, “Deloraine”, Arthur Street, off Jacques Street, Balmain, NSW, father of Private Edward James Harvey, was advised on 17th October, 1917 that Private E. J. Harvey had been wounded.

Private Edward James Harvey died at 6 am on 17th October, 1917 at King George Hospital, London, England from wounds received in action in France - G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Spine.

A death for Edward J. Harvey, aged 21, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Lambeth, London, England.

Private Edward James Harvey was buried at 1.30 pm on 20th October, 1917 in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England – Australian Military Burial Ground Plot number 179912.

From the burial report of Private Edward James Harvey - *Coffin was good, polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military Funeral, Firing Party being supplied by the South African Regiment stationed at Farnborough. The coffin was draped with the “Australian Flag” and the “Last Post” was sounded at the graveside. Chaplain Shannon of Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. officiated at the graveside. No relatives were present at the funeral. An oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F.*

Base Records wrote to Mrs A. Brown (remarried mother of the late Private Edward James Harvey) on 12th May, 1923 stating that the site of her son’s grave in Brookwood Military Cemetery had been officially registered as Plot 11 Row B Grave 16. *“While the actual place of burial remains unchanged the previous registration allotted thereto has been altered to conform with the uniform layout of this Cemetery.”* This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference – XI. B. 16. Private Edward James Harvey has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Court of Pride of Australia, No. 2488, A.O.F. had requested from Base Records an official certificate of death of No. 5124 Private Edward J. Harvey of the 56th Battalion, A.I.F. The Court of Pride of Australia wrote to Base Records on 16th January, 1918 acknowledging receipt of report of death of the late Private E. J. Harvey.

A War Pension was granted to Annie Harvey, 29 Montague St., Balmain, Sydney, NSW, mother of the late Private Edward James Harvey, in the sum of £1 – 6 – 0 per fortnight from 22nd December, 1917.

Private Edward James Harvey was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Harvey’s mother (Memorial Scroll sent December 1921 & Memorial Plaque sent September, 1922). Base Records received a letter from Mrs Annie Brown, remarried mother of the late Private Edward James Harvey, in October, 1922 acknowledging receipt of the Memorial Plaque & stated her new address was to be 1 Picton Street, Ponsonby, Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr George Harvey, father of the late Private Edward James Harvey, had received the personal effects of his son which had been sent from King George Hospital in England to Australia on *Boonah*.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Edward James Harvey – service number 5124, aged 22, of 56th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Annie and the late George Harvey, of 156 King St., St. Peters, New South Wales.

Private E. J. Harvey is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 162.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

E. J. Harvey is remembered on the Parramatta Superior Public School Great War Honour Board, located in Arthur Phillip High School, 102 – 116 Macquarie Street, Parramatta, NSW.



Parramatta Superior Public School Great War Honour Board (Photo from War Memorials Register of NSW)

E. J. Harvey is remembered on the Parramatta & District Roll of Honour, located in Parramatta Town Hall, Church Street Mall, Parramatta, NSW.



Parramatta & District Roll of Honour

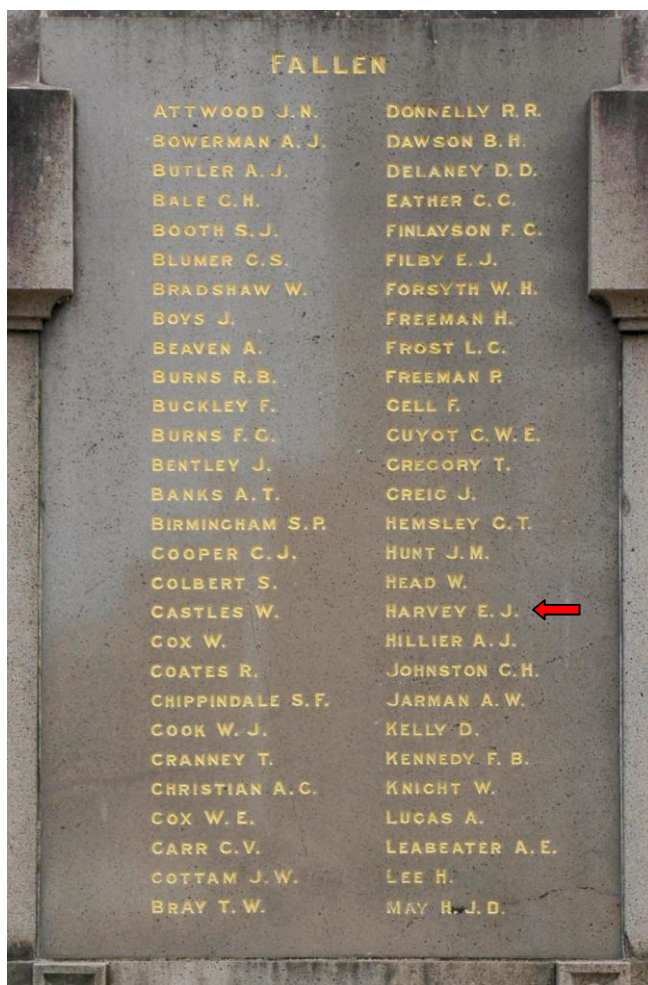
(Photo above from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown; below from War Memorials Register of NSW – David Roden)



E. J. Harvey is remembered on the Parramatta War Memorial, located in Prince Alfred Park, 353D Church Street, Parramatta, NSW.



Parramatta War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Register of NSW – Andrew Phelps)



(68 pages of Private Edward James Harvey's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

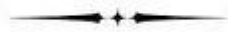
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P08624.057

Private Edward James Harvey



Newspaper Notices

PERSONAL PARS

The death at the front is reported of Private E. J. Harvey, who was employed at Messrs Hart, Hitchcock and Co's before enlisting.

(*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, Parramatta, NSW – 10 November, 1917)

LATEST CASUALTIES

The 348th casualty list was made available yesterday....

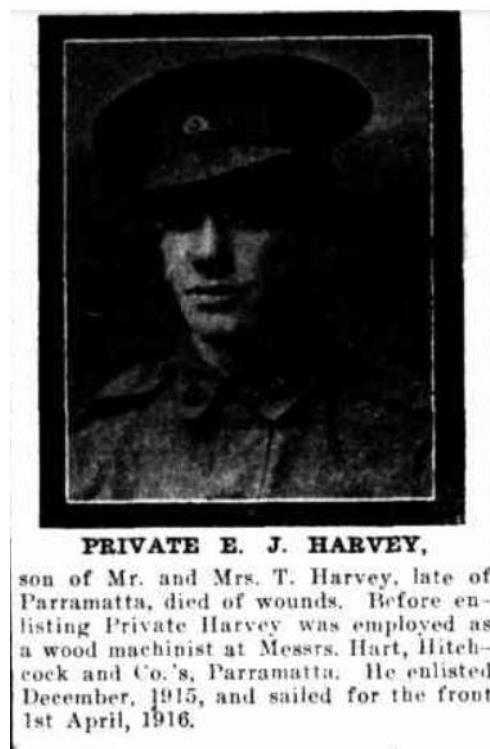
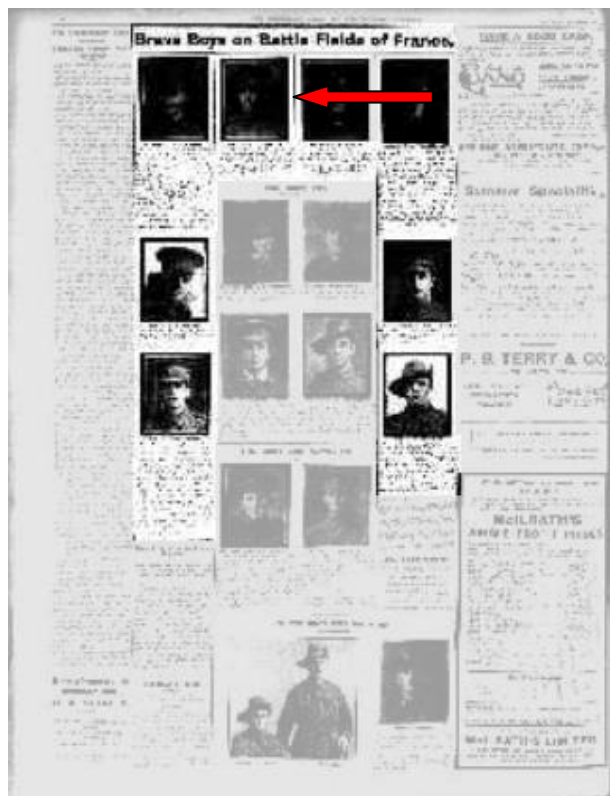
NEW SOUTH WALES

WOUNDED

Pte EDWARD JAMES HARVEY, Balmain

(*The Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, NSW – 2 November, 1917)

Brave Boys on Battle Fields of France



Private E. J. Harvey,

son of Mr and Mrs T. Harvey, late of Parramatta, died of wounds. Before enlisting Private Harvey was employed as a wood machinist at Messrs Hart, Hitchcock and Co's, Parramatta. He enlisted December, 1915, and sailed for the front 1st April, 1916.

(*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, Parramatta, NSW – 10 November, 1917)

353rd LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

Died of Wounds

Pte E. J. Harvey, Balmain (previously reported wounded)

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 23 November, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HARVEY – In loving memory of our beloved son, Private E. J. Harvey (Ted, 1524) who died on October 17, 1917, in London, from wounds received at Polygon Wood.

He died a hero for the Empire.

Inserted by his sorrowing father and mother, Geo. and Annie Harvey, late of Parramatta, now of Montague-st., Balmain.

HARVEY – In loving memory of our beloved brother, Private E. J. Harvey (Ted, 1524) who died October 17, 1917, in London, from wounds received at Polygon Wood.

Beloved by all.

Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Annie and Matthew Roach, Belmore-street, Rozelle.

HARVEY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private E. J. Harvey, died October 17th, 1917, in King George's Hospital, England, of wounds received in France. Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Ettie and Bob Balmer.

HARVEY – In memory of my late friend, Ted, killed in action October 17th, 1917.

Inserted by H. Smith.

HARVEY – In loving memory of my dear brother, Private E. J. (Ted) Harvey, 56th Batt., died of wounds 17th October, 1917.

Inserted by his loving sister, Alice.

HARVEY – In loving memory of our old pal, Private Ted Harvey, died of wounds October 17th, 1917. Inserted by his comrades, P. E. Peake and F. S. Crouch.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 19 October, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HARVEY – In loving memory of Private E. J. Harvey, 56th Batt., who died of wounds on the 17th of October, 1917.

Inserted by his loving mother, Mrs Harvey, 29 Montague-street, Balmain.

HARVEY - In loving memory of Private E. J. Harvey, 56th Batt., who died of wounds on the 17th of October, 1917.

Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Alice and Charlie Woodman.

HARVEY - In loving memory of Private E. J. Harvey, 56th Batt., who died of wounds on the 17th of October, 1917.

Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law Annie and Matthew Roach.

HARVEY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private Ted Harvey, died in King George's Hospital, London, 17th October, 1917, of wounds received in France. Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law E. and R. Balmer.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 18 October, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HARVEY – In loving memory of Private E. J. Harvey, who died on October 17th, 1917, at King George's Hospital, London, from wounds received in France. Beloved by all. Inserted by his loving mother, brother and sisters.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 16 October, 1920)

E. J. Harvey is remembered on the family headstone in Rookwood Cemetery, Sydney, NSW with his brother – Henry Francis Harvey who died on 3rd February, 1917. Methodist New 4 Zone F # 12

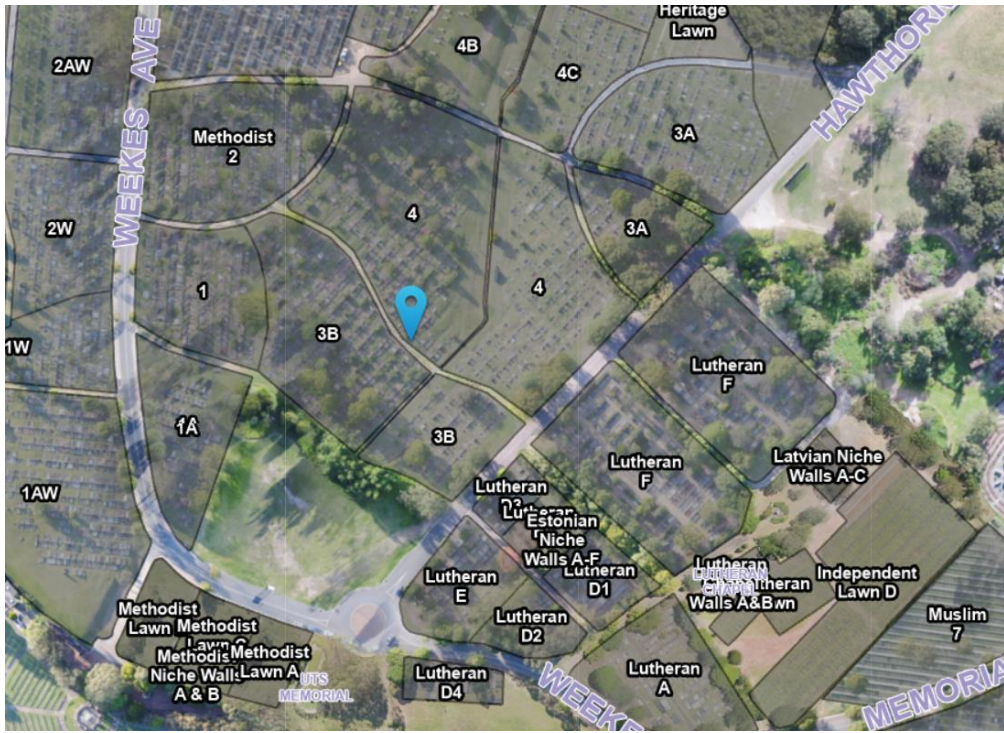


(Photo by J Bar)

Newspaper Notice – *The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, Parramatta, NSW – 10 February, 1917:

DEATH

HARVEY – February 3rd, 1917, at his parents' residence, 11 Arthur-street, Balmain, Henry Francis beloved son of George and Annie Harvey, late of Parramatta, aged 23 years.



(Photo courtesy of Gary & Irmgard Heap)

In Loving Memory of

H. F. HARVEY

Died Feb. 3rd, 1917

Aged 23 Years

At Rest

Also

Pte E. J. HARVEY

56th Batt A.I.F.

Died of Wounds in England

Oct. 17th 1917

Aged 21 years & 11 months

He Made The Sacrifice

For His Country

Beloved Sons Of

G. & A. Harvey

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Private E. J. Harvey does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Died For His Country

Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England

Located 30 miles from London in Surrey, Brookwood Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom. The cemetery contains the graves of more than 1,600 servicemen of the British Empire in the First World War and over 3,470 from the Second World War.

Brookwood Military Cemetery lies adjacent to Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis), a vast space which covers 500 acres. In 1917, an area to the north of the cemetery was set aside as Brookwood Military Cemetery for men and women of Commonwealth forces who died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. *(Information from CWGC)*

There are 446 Australian War Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery – 351 from World War 1 & 95 from World War 2.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00185

A large crowd attends an A.I.F. military funeral at Brookwood Cemetery. In the foreground wooden crosses mark rows of graves. (Photo c1919)

Identified: Front row, left to right: Second Lieutenant Douglas Abbott Ferguson, Australian Flying Corps, died of accidental injuries 18 August 1918; Lieutenant (Lt) Francis John Smedley MC, 7th Battalion, died of wounds 20 August 1918.

Second row: 6860 Private (Pte) James Alexander McKeown, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 20 June 1918; 3622 Pte S T Wilson, 2nd Australian Pioneers, died of wounds 4 July 1918; 2390 Sergeant Frederick Charles Stronell, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 9 July 1918; Lt Arthur Melville Lilburne MC, 6th Brigade Australian Field Artillery, died of disease 11 July 1918.



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)



Australian Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)





Australian War Graves *(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright 2020)*

Photo of Private E. J. Harvey's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.



(Photo by Neil Bright - 2020)

